

Message Text

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COMMERCE:CHOSTLER (PHONE)

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SUBJECT: BILATERAL CONSULTATIVE GROUP WITH BRAZIL

REF: BRASILIA 5776

1. AS FOLLOW-UP TO AGREEMENTS REGARDING BILATERAL ECONOMIC CONSULTATIVE GROUP REACHED BY UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON AND HIS TEAM WITH GOB DESCRIBED IN REFTEL, PLEASE TRANSMIT AIDE-MEMOIRE TO ITAMARITY WHICH INCORPORATES OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THOSE AGREEMENTS. IN PRESENTING AIDE-MEMOIRE, PLEASE EXPLAIN THAT WE WISH TO KEEP MECHANISM FLEXIBLE AND INFORMAL BUT THAT WE WISH TO CONFIRM IN WRITING HOW GROUP WOULD OPERATE SO AS TO AVOID POSSIBLE MISUNDERSTANDINGS IN THE FUTURE. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING FROM GOB PROPOSED REVISIONS OR CONFIRMATION THAT OUR VIEW OF AGREEMENTS REACHED ACCORDS WITH THEIRS.

2. FYI: PLEASE NOTE THAT PARAGRAPH 3 OF REFTEL IS INCORRECT IN STATING THAT COMPOSITION OF CONSULTATIVE GROUP SHOULD BE AT DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEVEL. SEE PARAGRAPH 4 BELOW. END FYI.

3. EMBASSY SHOULD DRAW ON FOLLOWING IN PREPARING SUBSTANTIVE PART OF AIDE-MEMOIRE:

4. ECONOMIC CONSULTATIVE GROUP: IT WAS AGREED TO ESTABLISH AN INFORMAL ECONOMIC CONSULTATIVE GROUP. ON THE US SIDE, THE ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS WILL BE LED BY STATE UNDER SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS ROBINSON, WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM OTHER AGENCIES AT THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEVEL. GROUP WILL MEET NOT LESS THAN ONCE A YEAR, ALTERNATELY IN BRASILIA AND WASHINGTON. EITHER SIDE CAN REQUEST A MEETING OF THE GROUP THROUGH NORMAL DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS, AS DEEMED NECESSARY. MANDATE OF GROUP IS TO: A) REVIEW ECONOMIC ISSUES OF MUTUAL CONCERN AT GLOBAL, HEMISPHERIC AND BILATERAL LEVEL, AND B) CONSULT ON AND SEEK TO IDENTIFY SOLUTIONS TO SPECIFIC ECONOMIC PROBLEMS.

5. SUB-GROUPS: OVERALL GROUP CAN ESTABLISH SUB-GROUPS TO DISCUSS SPECIFIC ISSUES, AS DEEMED NECESSARY. IT WAS AGREED TO ESTABLISH AN AUTONOMOUS SUB-GROUP ON TRADE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MANDATE OF SUB-GROUP ON TRADE WILL BE IDENTICAL TO THAT OF OVERALL GROUP, AS STATED ABOVE, EXCEPT THAT "TRADE" IS SUBSTITUTED FOR "ECONOMIC" UNDER (A) AND (B). IT WAS AGREED THAT SPECIFIC TECHNICAL AND INDIVIDUAL PROBLEMS SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE EXAMINED DIRECTLY THROUGH EXISTING TECHNICAL CHANNELS, RATHER THAN IN SUB-GROUPS. THE TRADE SUB-GROUP WILL BE ESTABLISHED AND MEET FOR THE FIRST TIME AT BRASILIA WITHIN THE NEXT NINETY DAYS. US

SIDE WILL BE CO-CHAIRLED BY STATE AND STR, AND INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM OTHER AGENCIES (COMMERCE, TREASURY AND AGRICULTURE) AS APPROPRIATE. GOB DELEGATION WILL BE LED BY THE CHIEF OF THE ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. AGENDA FOR FIRST MEETING WILL BE: A) THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS, INCLUDING FULL RANGE OF SPECIFIC ISSUES BEING TREATED IN MTN, B) BILATERAL ISSUES, INCLUDING EXPORT SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES, AND PROBLEMS OF US EXPORTERS IN BRAZILIAN MARKET, AND C) CONTINUED EXPANSION OF US-BRAZILIAN TRADE.

6. WITH RESPECT TO FIRST MEETING OF SUB-GROUP ON TRADE POLICY, EARLY OCTOBER APPEARS NOW TO BE BEST TIME FOR MEETING FROM OUR STANDPOINT. WE LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING GOB VIEWS ON TIMING AS SOON AS THEIR COMMITMENTS, INCLUDING MEETINGS WITH EC, FIRM UP. WE WOULD EXPECT TO SUPPLY MORE DETAILED SUGGESTIONS AT A LATER DATE CONCERNING SPECIFIC ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED UNDER AGENDA CITED IN PARAGRAPH 5 ABOVE. KISSINGER

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